



**REQUEST
for
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/890,871
Filing Date	August 7, 2001
First Named Inventor	Tatsuya NISHIMURA et al.
Group Art Unit	1742
Examiner Name	Harry D. WILKINS III
Attorney Docket Number	2001-1110A
Confirmation No.	9174

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted:
 i. Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
 ii. Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 iii. Other.

b. Enclosed:

- i. Amendment/Reply
 ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), Form PTO-1449 and cited references (4)
 iv. Other.

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).

- b. Other.

3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. .
 i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 09/08/2004 SDENBOB1 00000075 09890871
 ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17) 01 FC:1801 770.00 OP
 iii. Other.

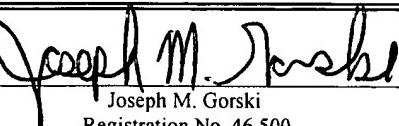
- b. Check in the amount of \$880.00 enclosed.

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

CUSTOMER NO.

000513

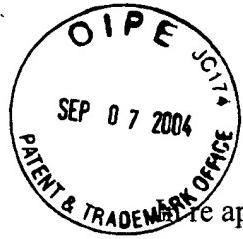
By:


 Joseph M. Gorski
 Registration No. 46,500

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.
 2033 "K" Street, N.W., Suite 800
 Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
 Phone:(202) 721-8200
 Fax:(202) 721-8250

September 7, 2004

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
 TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
 FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
 ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of

: Confirmation No. 9174

Tatsuya NISHIMURA et al.

: Docket No. 2001-1110A

Serial No. 09/890,871

: Group Art Unit 1742

Filed August 7, 2001

: Examiner H. D. WILKINS III

HYDROTHERMAL ELECTROLYTIC
APPARATUS AND PROCESSES

: Mail Stop: RCE

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed May 4, 2004, please consider the following remarks.